GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 272 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2017

IMPORT OF WHEAT

272. DR. P. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is not considering to import wheat on Government account;

(b) whether the country has enough wheat to meet the requirement under the Public Distribution System;

(c) whether it is true that as on December 1, 2016 Food Corporation of India had 27.55 million tonne of foodgrains out of which the quantum of wheat was 16.4 million tonne and rice was 11 million tonne; and

(d) whether the Government is encouraging import of wheat by private players by scrapping import duty on wheat and if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a): Yes Madam, there is no proposal to import wheat on Government Account.

(b): Stock of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1st July, 2017 was 32.275 million tonne against stock norms of 27.58 million tonne as on 1st July which is adequate to meet the requirement under Public Distribution System.

(c): The stock of foodgrains as on 1st December, 2016 was 27.555 million tonne of which the quantum of wheat was 16.496 million tonne and rice was 11.059 million tonne.

(d): The Import duty on wheat has been imposed @ 10% vide notification dated 28th March, 2017.

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